

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 17, and ending on page 39, line 11 with the following paragraph:

Micro-Organs as an in vivo-implanted continuous source of stem cells: Bone marrow micro organs prepared from β -galactosidase transgenic ROSA ~~ROZA~~ mice and implanted subcutaneously into syngeneic, β -galactosidase-negative (non-transgenic) mice, as described above, demonstrated growth and tissue specificity characteristic of MO cells, the MO origin of the differentiating stem cells evident from the blue-staining with x-gal (Figure 12). Surprisingly, the migration of MO derived bone marrow stem cells out of the immediate MO environment, and into the surrounding tissue is indicated by the presence of blue staining cells at a distance from the MO (black arrow, Figure 12). Thus, when implanted in vivo, MOs constitute a continuous source of stem cells capable of migrating out of the MOs and become incorporated into regenerating tissues at remote locations. This was further demonstrated in partially hepatectomized, syngeneic mice. When five bone-marrow MOs derived from a β -galactosidase transgenic ROSA ~~Reza~~ mice were implanted on top of a hemostatic matrix near the exposed liver surface and left for ten days, blue-staining transgenic bone marrow micro organ derived cells populate the entire matrix surface (Figure 17a). When the same area was fixed and sectioned, it is apparent that the micro organ derived cells not only cover most of the matrix but have also undergone differentiation, becoming incorporated into part of the newly forming liver sinusoids.